

- For Immediate Release – November 20, 2008

Arizona Department of Public Safety Officer Seizes 230 Pounds of Marijuana during a Traffic Stop on Interstate 10

On November 19, 2008 at about 9:54am, an officer with the Arizona Department of Public Safety stopped two vehicles traveling westbound on Interstate 10. The vehicles, a Ford Explorer and a Chevrolet pickup were stopped for a traffic and equipment violation.

When the officer approached the Explorer he saw bundles of marijuana in the back of the vehicle as well as in the front passenger seat. A total of 230 pounds was found in the Explorer. While speaking with the subjects from the two vehicles the officer was able to determine that the two vehicles were traveling together.

The driver of the Explorer, Fausto Guzman, 21, Douglas, Ariz. was arrested. The driver of the pickup, Jorge Abril, 18, from Elfrida, Ariz., and passenger Jose Valencia, 18, Douglas, Ariz. were also arrested. Fausto Guzman was booked into the Pima County Jail for possession of marijuana, possession of marijuana for sale, and transportation of marijuana for sale. Jorge Abril and Jose Valencia were booked into the Pima County Jail and charged with conspiracy to transport marijuana for sale.

END Photographs are available and will be sent out in a separate e-mail

The mission of the Arizona Department of Public Safety, one of the most dynamic state-level law enforcement agency in United States, is to protect human life and property by enforcing state laws, deterring criminal activity, assuring the safety of the motoring public on Arizona's highways and providing vital scientific, technical and operational support to other criminal justice agencies. The Department, also one of Arizona's largest law enforcement agencies with some 2,200 sworn and civilian employees, consists of four divisions – Highway Patrol, Criminal Investigations, Criminal Justice Support and Agency Support. The Department is headquartered in Phoenix with offices located in more than 80 communities within Arizona's 15 counties.

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